

## HEINRICH WILD.

After a long and severe illness Professor Dr. Heinrich Wild died at Zurich, Switzerland, on Friday, September 5. We have already, in the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW for March, 1899, pages 105-106, given a short sketch of the important works in meteorology that we owe to this distinguished physicist. From 1856 to 1868 Professor Wild was a professor in the university at Bern, where he did much to establish a uniform system of standards of measurement and devoted his attention to every problem bearing on terrestrial physics. In 1868 he was called to St. Petersburg as director of the Central Physical Observatory, which place he filled until July, 1895, and gave an immense impetus to accurate meteorological and magnetic work throughout the Russian Empire. In the latter year he obtained permanent leave of absence on account of his health and returned to his home in Zurich, where he had been born on December 17, 1833. It is only a few months since we received from Professor Wild an extensive memoir on the Foehn, apparently the last of his numerous publications.

## SEÑOR AUGUSTIN M. CHAVEZ.

We regret to announce the death about the middle of September of Señor Augustin M. Chavez. This distinguished engineer and former superintendent of telegraphs under the Secretary of the Interior organized in 1897 the system of daily telegraphic meteorological reports and weather maps that is now so well established in Mexico. To him also must be attributed the instructions to observers and the comments on

the methods of utilizing the weather maps published from time to time in the official documents of the Department of the Interior of the Republic of Mexico.

## CORRIGENDA.

August, 1902, p. 403, Table 1, substitute the following corrected copy:

TABLE 1.

Name of planet or satellite.	Critical velocity in meters, $v'$ .	Velocity of the mean square in meters, $w$ .	Density of a gas $H=1$ , that will escape as freely as does helium from the earth, $p'$ .	Density of gas that will escape as freely as hydrogen, $p''$ .	Lightest of the known gases or vapors that will not escape.	Molecular weight.
Moon .....	2380	257.	39.	78.	Carbon dioxide	44
Mercury .....	4641*	500.6	10.25	20.5	Nitrogen	28
Venus .....	9546	1029.	2.56†	5.12	Water vapor	18
Earth .....	10500	1133.	2.	4.	Water vapor	18
Mars .....	4803	517.	9.57	19.14	Nitrogen	28
Jupiter .....	47233	5095.	0.099	0.198	Hydrogen	2
Saturn .....	24508	2633.	0.37	0.74	Hydrogen	2
Uranus .....	17239	1865.	0.74	1.48	Hydrogen	2
Neptune .....	18002	1942.	0.68	1.36	Hydrogen	2

\* Assuming its rotation period to be 88 days. † Calculated by the writer.

Page 403, column 2, line 18 from bottom for "were" read "are."

Page 403, column 2, line 17 from bottom for "helium" read "hydrogen."

Page 405, Table 2, column 6, heading, omit "in c. c."

Page 405, line 2, below Table 3, after "hydrogen" insert "or helium."

## THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By W. B. STOCKMAN, Forecast Official, in charge of Division of Records and Meteorological Data.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WEATHER FOR SEPTEMBER.

September, 1902, was an abnormal month and was characterized by a deficiency of pressure generally over the country.

Temperature was below the normal and generally markedly so, in some States lower than for years past, excepting on the Pacific coast and in Idaho, New York, and New England, where it was in excess.

Precipitation was in decided excess in some districts, and generally above the average, except in upper Michigan, the Pacific coast, Plateau and some northwestern districts, northeastern Minnesota, and a few scattered localities on the Atlantic coast, where there was a deficiency, but generally a very slight one.

Cloudiness was generally above the average, except in the Florida Peninsula, North Dakota, and the northern Plateau and north Pacific regions, where it was below, and the west Gulf States and middle Plateau region, where the average obtained.

Relative humidity was generally above the normal, except in the northern and middle Pacific and northern and southern Plateau regions, North Dakota, the Missouri Valley, and the Florida Peninsula, where it was below, and in the southern slope region, where it was normal.

## PRESSURE.

The distribution of monthly mean pressure is shown graphically on Chart VI and the numerical values are given in Tables I and VI.

The area of 30.00 inches, or slightly higher, of mean pressure overlay the lower Lake region, Ohio Valley and Tennessee, northern part of the South Atlantic and the Middle Atlantic and New England States; and another area of about the same strength obtained over the north Pacific coast district.

The region of lowest mean pressure was over the South-

western States and the valley of California; a mean of 29.75 inches for the month was reported from Yuma, Ariz. The districts where the pressure was above the normal were small and scattered, comprising a portion of the Florida Peninsula, the northern two-thirds of New England, the coasts of middle and the northern part of southern California, and the northwestern eighth of the country, with departures not exceeding +.08 inch. In the remainder of the country the pressure was below the normal, with departures no greater than in the region where it was above.

The pressure increased over that of August, 1902, along the Pacific coast, the coast of the Gulf of Mexico generally, North Dakota, the northern portion of the upper Missouri Valley, the upper Mississippi Valley and the upper Lake region; elsewhere it diminished.

## TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR.

The distribution of monthly mean surface temperature, as deduced from the records of about 1,000 stations, is shown on Chart VI.

Generally the trend of the isotherms was to the southward of their position in 1901, the most marked departure appearing in the region between the Mississippi River and the Appalachian Mountains.

The mean monthly temperature was slightly above the normal in parts of New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and southern Texas, in New England generally, the western part of the Plateau regions, and in the Pacific districts, except along the northern and the extreme southern coasts; elsewhere it was below the normal, and generally decidedly so, the mean daily departure amounting to from  $-2^{\circ}$  to  $-6^{\circ}$  over the central valleys and the eastern part of the middle slope region.

Maximum temperatures of  $90^{\circ}$ , or higher, occurred, except in the Lake region and in portions of New England, the Middle Atlantic States, central Appalachian region, upper Mis-